

brought up off the Mull of Galloway, was found to be not uncommon in deep water at Oban—on the strand at Red Bay, county of Antrim, I found an example of this shell. *Trochus papillosus* and *Eulima polita*, dredged by Capt. Beechey, were not procured at the more northern localities, Sana island\* and Oban—of the latter species, a single living example was taken in the course of the Ordnance Survey in Belfast bay. The most northern locality on the Irish coast, in which it had hitherto been obtained, was Dublin bay.

Many observations are suggested by these catalogues, and others of a similar nature in my possession, but to my friend Mr. E. Forbes must be left the treatment of a subject in which he of all men possesses the most ample and important data.

VII.—On a new British species of *Alchemilla*. By CHARLES C. BABINGTON, M.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., &c.

IN looking over the valuable herbarium belonging to W. Borrer, Esq., I was gratified by finding in it an original *wild* specimen of *Alchemilla*, gathered by the late Mr. G. Don upon the Clova Mountains, in Scotland, many years since, and considered by him as a species quite distinct from *A. alpina*. Upon a careful examination of the specimen and also of a living plant in Mr. Borrer's garden, I was soon convinced that the plant was indeed a distinct species, although it may be found in almost all the British botanical and other curious gardens under the name of *alpina*, the true *alpina* being often nameless in the same collections. Upon inquiry I have always found, that whenever the original source was known from which the roots were obtained, they are stated to have been sent by Mr. G. Don from Scotland. Upon showing the plant to the late lamented Prof. Don, he also informed me that his father had found it in Scotland.

Having now satisfied myself that the plant was a distinct species, and also that it came from the Highlands, I took all the means in my power to ascertain its identity with some described species, but having totally failed, I feel convinced that it has escaped the notice of botanists. It was denominated *A. argentea* by Mr. Don, but that name was never published, and as Lamarck employed the same name for *A. alpina*, I have considered it advisable to give a new name to this plant, as the employment of *argentea* (although a most excellent and descriptive name) would only tend to create confu-

\* In June 1842, Mr. Hyndman dredged a full-grown *Trochus papillosus* near Sana Island.

sion. It is right to state that Mr. W. C. Trevelyan, in the 2nd edition of his paper upon the botany of the Feroe Isles (printed at Florence), has shortly characterized our present subject under the name of *A. argentea* (Don). He finds it to be plentiful in those islands.

I propose to name and characterize the plant as follows:—

*Alchemilla conjuncta* (Bab. MSS.). Foliis radicalibus peltato-palmatis 5-7 partitis, laciniis oblongis obtusis apice adpresso-serratis subtus albo-sericeis ad  $\frac{1}{3}$  conjunctis, corymbis parvis lateralibus terminalibusque distantibus.

*A. argentea*, G. Don, MSS.! in *Borr. Herb.*, Trevelyan in *Bot. of Feroe Islands*, not *Lam. Enc.* 1. 77.

Closely allied to *A. alpina*, but usually much larger in all its parts, and distinguished by not having its leaflets separated to their base, broader, more silky beneath, and spreading from the petiole in such a manner, that in the radical leaves the two external leaflets almost, if not quite, touch each other, so that at first sight the whole leaf presents the appearance of being peltate. The stems have long alternate spreading branches which are often again subdivided, and the flowers, which are more silky and upon longer stalks than those of *A. alpina*, are collected into small, nearly simple, distant corymbs. In *A. alpina* the leaflets are separated to the base, and form a digitate not at all palmate leaf, the outer ones being very distant from each other, or even nearly opposite.

VIII.—*Contributions to the Ichthyology of Australia.* By JOHN RICHARDSON, M.D., F.R.S., &c., Inspector of Hospitals, Haslar.

[Continued from vol. ix. p. 393.]

GERRES FILAMENTOSUS (*Cuv. et Val.*).

No. 4. Mr. Gilbert's collection, Sept. 1840.

THIS fish, Mr. Gilbert informs us, is an inhabitant of a freshwater swamp at Port Essington, but he does not state whether the swamp communicates with the sea or not. The *Gerres lineatus* is also said to be taken in the freshwater lagoon of Colluco, but as the other species are marine, it is probable that these enter the fresh waters at certain seasons from the sea. Mr. Gilbert's specimen was obtained in the month of September. The same species was obtained by Messrs. Quoy and Gaimard at New Guinea, and by Messrs. Kuhl and Van Hasselt at Java. In the 'Histoire des Poissons' the *woodawahah* of Russell (p. 52. pl. 68.) is considered to belong to this species; but this appears to be somewhat doubtful, from the